



Colorado Agricultural Statistics Service
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COUNTY ESTIMATES

All Cattle and Calves and Beef Cows

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This report continues the livestock county estimates data series for all cattle and beef cows which was resumed in 2001 after being suspended in 1987. Data for this report is obtained from the National January 1 Cattle Inventory Survey supplemented by the Livestock County Estimates Survey which was mailed to all cattle operations in the state that were excluded from the National survey.

The drought that has gripped the state the past few years persisted throughout 2003 resulting in further reductions of the cattle inventory in Colorado. This was reflected in the state's total cattle inventory as of January 1, 2004 which was down 9 percent from the previous year to 2,400,000 head, and down 21% from two years ago. The beef cow inventory, at 612,000 head as of January 1, 2004, was down 13 percent from a year earlier, and down 23% from two years ago.

Weld County, with 520,000 head of all cattle and calves on hand as of January 1, 2004, was the leading cattle county in the state with 22 percent of the state's total inventory of 2.40 million head of all cattle and calves. The county has a number of large commercial feedlots and large dairy operations which contribute to the leading cattle county ranking. Weld County had the second largest number of beef cows, which are included in the all cattle total. The 45,000 head of beef cows represented nearly 7 percent of the state's total beef cow inventory of 612,000 head.

Morgan County and **Yuma County**, are a close second and third for all cattle and calf inventory in the state with 251,000 and 245,000 head, respectively. Like Weld County, both Morgan County and Yuma County are home to several large commercial feedlots and dairy operations. Yuma County has the state's largest inventory of beef cattle with 50,000 head, or 8% of the state's total. **Logan County** is ranked fourth in Colorado with an all cattle inventory of 179,000 head as of January 1, 2004. The county is also ranked fourth in the number of beef cows in the state with 25,000 head, just slightly behind the 26,000 head of beef cows in **Las Animas County**. **Kit Carson County**, another large cattle feeding county, placed fifth in all cattle and calves with 127,000 head, but the inventory of 19,000 head of beef cows ranked ninth in the state.

Prowers County, with 105,000 head, was the only other county in the state with 100,000 or more cattle and calves and was the sixth largest cattle county in the state. Prowers County had just 11,000 head of beef cows, ranking well down in the range of many other counties. The counties of **Otero** (64,000 head), **Washington** (58,000 head), **Baca** and **Bent** (each 47,000 head) complete the list of the top ten counties in the state for all cattle and calves.

The January 1, 2004 inventory in the top ten counties totaled 1,643,000 head of all cattle and calves and represented nearly 70 percent of the total cattle inventory in the state. The top eleven counties with beef cows had a combined inventory of 282,500 head, representing 46 percent of the state's total inventory of 612,000 head. Following Yuma County, Weld County, Las Animas and Logan County which claimed the top four positions, respectively were: **Morgan County** with 21,500 head, **Lincoln County** and **Washington County**, each with 21,000 head; **Moffat County**, 20,000 head; **Kit Carson County**, with 19,000 head; and **Elbert County** and **Mesa County**, each with 17,000 head.

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Director

All Cattle and Calves and Beef Cows: Inventory by county and district, Colorado						
County and District	All cattle and calves			Beef cows that have calved		
	January 1, 2002	January 1, 2003	January 1, 2004	January 1, 2002	January 1, 2003	January 1, 2004
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
Chaffee	6,500	6,500	5,000	4,000	4,000	3,500
Clear Creek .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Eagle	6,500	6,000	5,500	5,000	3,000	2,500
Gilpin .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Grand	10,000	15,000	13,500	7,000	9,000	7,000
Gunnison	20,000	15,000	16,000	11,000	8,500	9,000
Jackson	30,000	24,500	25,000	18,000	15,500	16,000
Lake	1,000	300	200	700	...	...
Moffat	27,000	32,000	29,000	15,000	22,000	20,000
Park	7,500	8,500	7,800	4,800	5,000	4,500
Pitkin	3,000	1,400	1,500	1,300	1,000	1,000
Rio Blanco	18,000	22,000	19,500	13,000	14,500	12,500
Routt	25,000	29,500	24,000	13,000	15,000	12,000
Summit	2,000	2,500	1,500	1,000	1,000	1,000
Teller	3,500	1,800	1,500	1,200	1,300	1,000
NW & Mountain	160,000	165,000	150,000	95,000	100,000	90,000
Boulder	13,000	11,500	11,000	4,500	4,500	4,000
Jefferson	5,000	2,500	2,500	2,500	1,500	1,500
Larimer.....	57,000	52,000	42,000	13,000	12,000	8,000
Logan	250,000	212,000	179,000	30,000	25,500	25,000
Morgan	250,000	263,000	251,000	20,000	22,000	21,500
Sedgwick.....	25,000	23,000	14,500	5,000	4,500	5,000
Weld	750,000	546,000	520,000	65,000	50,000	45,000
Northeast	1,350,000	1,110,000	1,020,000	140,000	120,000	110,000
Adams	18,000	12,000	9,000	6,500	4,500	3,000
Arapahoe	6,000	8,500	5,000	3,800	5,000	3,500
Cheyenne	36,000	21,000	19,000	16,000	10,000	10,000
Denver.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Douglas	5,000	6,000	3,500	2,700	3,500	2,500
Elbert	40,000	41,000	31,000	27,000	24,000	17,000
El Paso	35,000	25,000	24,000	23,000	15,500	14,000
Kiowa	15,000	16,000	14,000	13,000	9,500	10,000
Kit Carson	145,000	131,000	127,000	27,000	25,000	19,000
Lincoln	45,000	46,000	33,000	29,000	29,000	21,000
Phillips	50,000	32,000	31,500	5,000	4,000	4,000
Washington	45,000	64,500	58,000	23,000	24,500	21,000
Yuma	260,000	262,000	245,000	39,000	45,500	50,000
East Central	700,000	665,000	600,000	215,000	200,000	175,000
Archuleta	8,000	6,500	5,000	3,500	3,000	2,500
Delta	40,000	30,000	26,000	20,000	13,500	12,000
Dolores	4,000	3,000	2,500	2,400	2,000	1,500
Garfield	20,000	22,500	20,500	14,000	13,000	11,000
Hinsdale	1,000	1,000	1,000	600	500	500
La Plata	20,000	20,000	17,000	12,000	11,000	9,000
Mesa	40,000	45,000	37,000	27,000	23,500	17,000
Montezuma	19,000	19,000	16,500	14,500	12,500	10,000
Montrose	55,000	48,000	33,500	27,000	21,000	15,000
Ouray	9,000	7,000	5,000	6,500	4,500	3,000
San Juan .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
San Miguel	4,000	8,000	6,000	2,500	5,500	3,500
Southwest	220,000	210,000	170,000	130,000	110,000	85,000
Alamosa	9,000	11,000	8,500	7,200	6,500	5,000
Conejos	25,000	25,000	23,000	18,000	16,500	15,000
Costilla	6,000	9,000	7,000	4,000	5,500	5,000
Mineral	400	1,000	500	300	500	...
Rio Grande	14,600	12,000	11,000	10,000	7,000	6,000
Saguache	25,000	27,000	20,000	14,500	16,000	11,000
San Luis Valley	80,000	85,000	70,000	54,000	52,000	42,000
Baca	60,000	60,000	47,000	21,000	17,000	14,000
Bent	50,000	47,000	47,000	19,000	15,000	15,500
Crowley	70,000	31,000	31,000	10,000	7,000	6,000
Custer	10,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	3,000	3,000
Fremont	15,000	11,000	10,000	8,000	5,000	4,500
Huerfano	20,000	8,500	9,000	13,000	6,000	6,000
Las Animas	50,000	41,500	42,000	32,000	25,000	26,000
Otero	100,000	67,000	64,000	17,000	11,000	9,000
Prowers	120,000	111,500	105,000	19,000	16,500	11,000
Pueblo	45,000	32,500	30,000	21,000	14,500	15,000
Southeast	540,000	415,000	390,000	165,000	120,000	110,000
State Total	3,050,000	2,650,000	2,400,000	799,000	702,000	612,000